

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 8, 2003

Senate Resolution

No. 16

Introduced by Senator McClintock

April 7, 2003

Senate Resolution No. 16—Relative to patriotic displays.

1 WHEREAS, Mrs. Penny Young, the mother of a young Marine
2 who is awaiting orders for deployment to the Middle East, posted
3 handmade, patriotic signs on the non-freeway side of a fence on
4 the public's right-of-way facing her neighborhood from the
5 Golden State Freeway in Castaic; and

6 WHEREAS, Workers from the Department of Transportation
7 were sent on April 3 2, 2003, to remove the display and according
8 to the Los Angeles Daily News, "When a (CalTrans) worker
9 headed for one of her son's bedsheets she had painted with stars
10 and stripes, Young spread her arms wide and tried to stop him. The
11 worker persisted, pushing Young into the fence."; and

12 WHEREAS, The Department of Transportation has the
13 authority to grant permits for the posting of patriotic sentiments in
14 a nondiscriminatory manner, but has refused to do so; and

15 WHEREAS, An appropriate response by the Department of
16 Transportation would have been for its workers to approach this
17 patriotic and concerned mother and hand her such a permit, instead
18 of choosing to physically accost her and to confiscate her heartfelt
19 expressions of patriotism; now, therefore, be it

20 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That it
21 expresses its support for all California families who have a
22 member in harm's way during the war on terrorism; and be it
23 further

1 *Resolved*, That its Members condemn the actions taken by the
2 Department of Transportation in Castaic on April 2, 2003, when
3 Penny Young was physically accosted and her display of support
4 for American troops was removed by force; and be it further

5 *Resolved*, That at a time when America is at war, the Governor
6 and the Department of Transportation are requested to instruct
7 state workers to grant permits to any member of the public who
8 seeks to express patriotic sentiments on a public right-of-way in a
9 manner consistent with traffic safety; and be it further

10 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
11 this resolution to the Governor and the Department of
12 Transportation and to the author for appropriate distribution.

